



Honorary Commander Newsletter

Kirtland AFB NM 87117

May 2002

Successful kickoff for HC Tour program



Photos by Damian Bohannon

Honorary commanders, base representatives, and specialists with the 150th Fighter Wing, New Mexico Air National Guard, take time to pose for a group shot with one of the unit's F-16 "Fighting Falcon" aircraft.

The Honorary Commanders Tour program started with a successful kickoff led by Gen. Lester L. Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, during a luncheon May 16.

The general was at the luncheon to meet and greet with Kirtland AFB's honorary commanders. He told them he appreciated their involvement with Kirtland AFB by attending these tours, learning about the base, and telling others in their communities about all the various missions and contributions to our country's defense.

After the luncheon, honorary commanders boarded the bus to the 150th Fighter Wing, New Mexico Air National Guard, where they got up-close and personal with the F-16 "Fighting Falcon" aircraft. The group then went to the 58th Special

Operations Wing to learn about their various missions and aircraft. At both units, leadership and many unit specialists interacted with the honorary commanders and fielded many questions, providing an intimate insight about both units.

Get ready for June 5. Get inside and personal with the Air Force Research Laboratory. Honorary commanders will see the Laser Effects Test Facility, Diode Laser and the Space Vehicles part of the lab. This is a tour that will leave a lasting impression on you and show you what's really up in space.



Honorary commanders pose in front of one of the 58th Special Operations Wing's MH-53J Pave Low III helicopters during their tour at the unit.

2002 Upcoming Tours

JUNE 5: Air Force Research Laboratory

AUGUST 8: Sandia National Laboratory

SEPTEMBER 18: Department of Energy

SEPTEMBER Date TBD: Proposed tour at United States - Mexico border with New Mexico Air National Guard's Counterdrug Task Force

OCTOBER 2: The Trestle, K-9 Demo, and Manzano Mountains

OCTOBER 9: Dinner and entertainment at the Mountain View Club

NOVEMBER 21: Air Force Inspection Agency and Air Force Safety Center

NOVEMBER 18: Starfire Optical Range (AFRL)

Of Special Note

The proposed tour for the trip to the US-Mexican border with the Counterdrug Task Force originally listed for July is being repropoed for September when it is not as hot. Once particulars are worked out, we will send you the date and times well in advance for your planning purposes. No tour is planned for the month of July.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any tours, etc., you can feel free to call Mitch Chandran, chief of community relations, at 846-6338.